

TOWN OF CONCORD

Department of Planning and Land Management

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MEMORANDUM

To: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee

From: Marcia Rasmussen, Director DPLM

Re: Update of Phases 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D

Date: July 8, 2020

1. Phase 2A Update: This phase of the trail has been completed and is open for all to enjoy!

2. Phase 2B Update: MassDOT has not scheduled any update meetings. I am assuming that work has begun and will proceed in a timely manner.

I will be setting up a Zoom meeting to discuss the interpretive historic marker that needs to be finalized for Phase 2B with former residents of the Commonwealth Ave. neighborhood. Former BFRT Advisory Committee member Suzanne Knight also volunteered to help with any research as needed. I want to use the painting (right) provided by Jim Moran back in 2017, along with various photographs of life in the neighborhood in the 1930's and 40's.



3. Phase 2C Updates – The installation of doors as part of the 'Go Out Doors' exhibition envisioned by artist Nancy Lippe has begun (see below)! The first three doors and the banners were installed on Monday, June 29th; additional doors will be added each week for three weeks (there will be 10 or 11 doors, total) and the doors will remain in place until November 2020. Nancy and I rode the trail in June (checking out the additional locations identified by BFRT Advisory Committee members at the June 4th meeting) and met to discuss the doors and various locations identified on June 26th.





During the site walk for Phase 2B, I was able to talk with MassDOT landscape architect Stephanie Smoot about replacement of the dead trees along Phase 2C. She was going to follow up with the contractor about replacing the trees since they are under warrantee, but this may have been delayed due to the pandemic.

Given the unexpected costs of the additional work related to renewing the Notice of Intent/Order of Conditions and bringing the 100% plans up to final construction plans for the last ½ mile of Phase 2C, I have delayed any additional work along Phase 2C until I have the estimate in hand since there are limited funds remaining from the Community Preservation Committee 2018 allocation. Some of the work anticipated included additional plantings, signage, fencing and planters. See Phase 2D second paragraph, below.

4. Phase 2D Sudbury: The 25% design public hearing on Phase 2D of the BFRT has been scheduled by MassDOT for Thursday, July 16th. It will be a pre-recorded Design Public Hearing webinar which will be posted to the MassDOT website and will present the proposed Bruce Freeman Rail Trail project in Sudbury and Concord, MA. The web address is: https://www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings.

I had a follow up discussion in early June with MassDOT project manager for BFRT 2D Eamon Kernan regarding the additional work and information needed for the last ½ mile of Phase 2C to be included in the construction of Phase 2D. I was advised that Concord will not only have to renew the Notice of Intent/Order of Conditions, but will also be responsible to complete the plans from 100% design to PS&E level of design. I have requested an estimate from Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. for this additional effort and am awaiting this information, which is expected to be finalized next week.